

Ashfield Boys High School Community News

Time for you and your child

Find us at: 117 Liverpool Rd, Ashfield 2131
Tel: 9798 6620 Fax: 9716 8004
Email: ashfieldbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

March 31st, 2010



Director General recognises ABHS with Award for Excellence in Boys Education

In 2009, Ashfield Boys' HS was acknowledged as a leader in the field of Boys Education by the Director General of Education, Mr. Michael Coutts Trotter. The Award for Excellence in Advancing Boys' Learning and Leadership was the result of a lot of hard work on the part of the whole teaching staff under the direction of Principal, Mrs. Kokkalis.

Representing the Director General, Mr. Trevor Fletcher, Deputy Director General and Dr. Phil Lambert, Director of the Sydney Region expressed their admiration for what is being achieved at ABHS.



Since 1997 ABHS staff, students and parents have worked together as a cohesive community to develop a culture committed to improving learning outcomes "Some of the key features of this have been the use of research – based evidence and a common school vision as articulated through OUR CORE VALUES," said Mrs Kokkalis.

"Quality curriculum, teaching practices, and learning programs have resulted in excellent academic results for the past 8 years. We are 'above State averages' for attendance, retention and value-adding," she added.

All of these have combined to lift the profile and public perception of the school as a place for boys who want to learn and succeed. The tangible result of this can be seen in the increased enrolment (20%).

In a further show of support, Member for Grayndler, the Hon. Mr. Anthony Albanese, Leader of the House of Representatives, wrote: "I am delighted...congratulating Ashfield Boys' HS. Your achievement is the result of ... excelling in achieving educational goals, adding to public education and delivering high level results"

At the Assembly, guests were treated to a presentation of LIFE at ABHS, which included Greek dance, Islander group performances and the Concert band, followed by a tour of the school and exceptional tea prepared by the Hospitality boys. The Director General makes his awards to around 40 schools from the array of over 2000 across the State.

More photos appear on page 7

ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
OUR CORE VALUES

Respect
Treat others with considerations and regard, respect another person's point of view.

Doing Your Best
Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable, try hard, pursue excellence.

Care and Compassion
Care for self and others.

Honesty and Trustworthiness
Be honest, sincere and seek the truth

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to all our lovely boys and staff. The holidays unfortunately have become a dim memory but time is flying by and it is hard to believe that it is week 7 and soon Easter will be upon us.

The Year has started well. Our HSC students once again did us proud. Karl De Torre received an ATAR score of 99.6. Fifty five students were successful in gaining entry for University places. Last year we earned 52 Band 6 scores - Band 6, being the highest band that any student can earn in any HSC course. To receive a band 6, students must earn a score higher than 90 out 100.

Last year we were honoured to receive the Director's Award for Excellence in Advancing Boys Learning and Leadership. The official ceremony took place last Friday 12th March. Only 40 of these Awards are presented to schools across NSW. This Award is for schools which have made significant contributions to Public Education and the achievement of goals stated in the Department's corporate planning documents.

Our enrolments have also increased; currently 716 students are enrolled in the school. Waiting lists have been established in most years.

With a dedicated staff to support me, and a wonderful community, great things can and will continue to happen at Ashfield Boys High.

D. Kokkalis

Receive the Newsletter electronically

Last Newsletter, some parents took up the invitation to receive the Newsletter by email.

The electronic version is in pdf.

There are many benefits to this option, among which are:

- you get all the photographs in colour;
- you are being environmentally responsible by saving paper;
- The school saves on the cost of printing, money which can then be used for other things in the school;
- You are also able to highlight, cut and paste and save the pieces important to you.

To take up the option, simply complete the form which is included with the Newsletter and return it to the school.



MAGPIE SPORTS CLUB
40 HAMPTON ST
CROYDON PARK

JEWELLERY, CUSTOMISED
SHOE, CANDLES, SOAPS,
CAKES, BISCUITS, PLANTS,
COLLECTABLES AND LOTS
MORE

SUNDAY 28TH MARCH
LAST SUNDAY OF EACH
MONTH

ROCHELLE POLLEY 0402009758
ARETI KAROUNIS 0403289999



The new shade structure providing Year 7 students with a sun-safe play area at recess and lunchtime.

School Community Directory

Parents and Old Boys are very important to us all for ongoing support.

To reward that support back, we are proposing a School Community Directory.

It will take a form similar to a mini Yellow Pages.

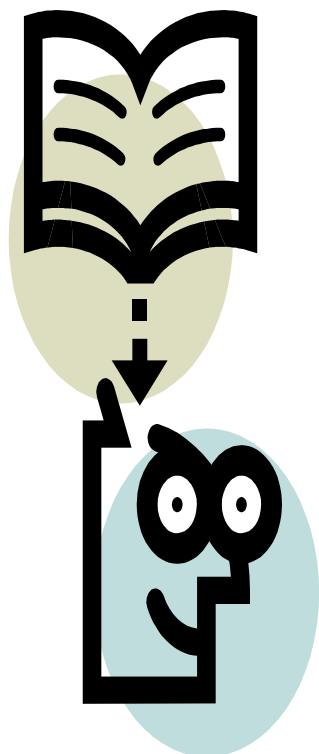
Parents who wish to make use of this will be able to advertise their business or service in alphabetical categories.

To take advantage of this opportunity, complete the form which accompanies this Newsletter with the relevant details.

We are not suggesting that you don't use your regular businesses, BUT if you are looking for an Electrician, or Motor Mechanic, or Accountant, or Solicitor, consider using one of the existing parents of the School.

There will be no charge for this.

Homework assistance available



HOMEWORK CENTRE IN THE LIBRARY

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY
7:30 TO 8:30 (Mornings)
MISS BROWN**

**MONDAY AND TUESDAY
3:10 UNTIL 4:10
(Afternoons)
MISS GORTON**

**COME ALONG AND GET SOME HELP WITH
AN ASSIGNMENT OR JUST A PLACE TO
WORK AND ACCESS INFORMATION**

PICKLES
SCHOOLWEAR SPECIALISTS SINCE 1976. MANUFACTURING & RETAIL



**Your
Uniform shop**

PICKLES NEWS WHAT'S NEW?

"New" jackets have arrived.

Size 10-16 \$65.00

Size 18-30 \$68.00

"New" Track pants have arrived sizes 10-XXXL \$39.50

Clearance of Last Season's Stock until sold out

Track pants all sizes \$25.00

Track tops all sizes \$35.00

Baseball Jackets \$45.00 all sizes

**OPEN EVERY MONDAY 8.00AM – 9.00AM & EVERY TUESDAY 10.00AM – 11.00AM
DURING TERM**

OR PLACE YOUR ORDER ONLINE AT www.youruniformshop.com.au

OR PHONE US ON: (02) 9905 2711 to place your order over the phone.

Welfare Report



This year has seen a successful start of several programs. **Peer Support** has begun, with over 40 very keen Year 10 students making the grade as Peer Support Leaders. All of Year 7 will be under their guidance in learning about the school values and procedures, making new friends amongst the peers in their groups and exploring the complex issues around bullying. I was very impressed by the start to the program this year. Congratulations to all boys involved!

Also up and running is the **'To the Core'** values sessions, with 12 students participating in these sessions which are run by Dennis Laris from The Wesley Mission. Dennis received an award at the Ashfield Council Australia Day Awards for his contributions to youth and youth issues. Congratulations Dennis. We get to see how committed Dennis is every year as he gives service to the school.

Also about to begin are **'Links to Learning'** with approximately 10 students from Year 10 being able to

take part in this service run through the Marrickville Youth Resource Centre. These students go out of the school on one day a fortnight to gain knowledge about jobs, alternative pathways and building CV's, and they are able to participate in a variety of sports and challenging activities such as horse-riding.

Another program which will be starting soon is MPC Connections, which will lead on from **'Youth Pathways'**. As a new Federal Government initiative, it will help selected students from Years 9-12 to access alternative pathways in their career and provide support in other areas according to individual students' needs.

A reminder of the correct procedures if your son/ward is **absent or late**. Please get them to bring in a signed note, telling us of the reason as to why he was either late or absent. It is ok to phone, but written/typed and signed explanations are the requirement of the Department of Education. Support Sessions are to be held again for those students who need support in their attendance or lateness issues.

Heather Gorton has The Breakfast Club

Margot Fitzgibbon
Head Teacher Welfare

Creative Arts report

This year is set to be an exciting one in the area of **Drama**, with Ms Lane, with her valuable experience, returning to the fold, and Ms Museth progressing well with the school production called '100'. Rehearsals have begun this term and she will be calling for technical crew volunteers from the student body soon. These will include stagehands, sound and lighting crew and photographers.

Year 12 students got the experience of going to see **'Onstage' at the Seymour Centre**. This day showcased the top HSC Group and Individual Performances and highlighted to our students the level of skill and professionalism which is required when they come to do their HSC performances.

The Art Department has students involved in a variety of projects. Students across all years are currently involved in creating murals for the doors of the toilets. Year 10 students are coordinating this project, with Dan Collins, Richard Walsh, Daniel Dubois,

Beau Garter-Qarnivalu, Jordan Zervakos and Jamer-son Young showing their leadership skills. The murals were chosen by these students and represent various themes. These should be completed during Term 2.

The Art Precinct is still a work in progress, awaiting the arrival of materials to create the displayboards on the outside walls of the Artrooms. It isn't happening overnight but we will be very pleased when the artworks representing students' ideas are on show for the rest of the school community.

Music has had an injection of youth and experience. Ms Tzodouris brings a caring and thoroughly organized approach to her junior lessons. Mr Nicholls, who was replacing Mr Dixon while he was on leave, brought an amazing amount of teaching experience and musical knowledge. Thank you to these teachers for making such an excellent contribution so far.

Margot Fitzgibbon
Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts

Ashfield Council working for the community

Free Workshops

April School Holiday Program

Are you looking for something to do these coming school holidays? Ashfield Council has released its latest school holiday program for teenagers. It's packed with different activities each day. The program includes Wii Challenge, IMAX 3D Alice in Wonderland, Chocolate Making for Chocoholics and a visit to Taronga Zoo. The program is suitable for young people aged between 12-18 years old. Every activity is free.

Landscape Drawing Classes

Learn how to improve your landscape drawing technique in Ashfield Park. An experienced local artist will run two classes on Wednesday 7 April and Thursday 8 April. Both workshops will run from 1pm-3pm at Ashfield Park. The workshops are free and are suitable for anyone aged 15-24 years old, with beginners and experienced drawers welcome.

Engaging Adolescents

Presenter: Peter Carey **Wednesdays 12, 19 and 26 May 2010** 7pm-9pm @ Cadigal Room

This 3 week course will help parents develop greater confidence in parenting their adolescent by understanding how adolescents function, developing strategies for effective communication and promoting socially appropriate behaviour.

For more information, or a copy of the program visit Council's website at

www.ashfield.nsw.gov.au or

contact Camille on 9716 1843 or

email camillec@ashfield.nsw.gov.au.



Ashfield Council

Swine flu vaccination advice for schools

The Department of Education and Training has provided an update on vaccination against Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza (swine flu).

Swine flu activity has dropped significantly in NSW over recent months, but continues to have a heavy impact in many Northern Hemisphere countries. It remains to be seen what the impact in Australia will be as we move into the winter months, although a resurgence of pandemic influenza activity is possible.

NSW Health is encouraging everyone to obtain a free vaccination against this potentially life threatening illness. The Panvax® vaccine is available free from most general practitioners and Aboriginal Medical Services. Some Community Health Centres and council immunisation clinics are also offering the vaccine free of charge. Call ahead to confirm the health service is vaccinating on the day you wish to visit.

The NSW Department of Education and Training is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy working and learning environment for staff, students and visitors to schools. It is important that information about the availability of Panvax® continues to go out to your school and broader community. Immunising a high percentage of the school not only protects those individuals who receive the vaccine, but also reduces the chance that any students or staff with a weakened immune system (for whom the vaccine may not work as effectively) will be exposed to the infection.

Further information can be obtained through following the links.

The fact sheets are available on the Department's Occupational Health and Safety website at:

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/adminandmanage/ohands/hsi/index.htm>

Pandemic influenza vaccination available for children aged ten years and over:

https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/detoh_s/adminandmanage/ohands/hsi/vaccine.doc

Pandemic influenza vaccination approved for children aged 6 months and over:

https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/detoh_s/adminandmanage/ohands/hsi/vaccinereminder.doc

NSW Health: information about the vaccine:

<http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/vaccination/index.asp>

Peter Riordan

Deputy Director-General

Workforce Management and Systems Improvement

Former students making a difference

This story comes to us courtesy of Ms. Judy Gerber, ex-Head Teacher English ABHS.

I was invited by my former student, Mohamed Bangura, from Ashfield Boys' High School to see the African Drumming presentation in the central courtyard at lunch at Macquarie University.

I have not seen Mohamed nor his twin brother, Mustapha (both in my ESL class at Ashfield) since they left but I have received correspondence from Mohamed periodically when he has been applying to transfer universities or applying for scholarships or jobs - and needed me to be a referee.

I was overcome today to learn of the achievements of these two refugee students from Ashfield Boys - which they credit with supporting them and giving them the encouragement to pursue their dreams.

Mohamed Bangura is in his third year of a double degree at Macquarie University - Economics and Finance. He represented his university just recently at a conference of universities and school principals - and spoke about the significance of his schooling at Ashfield Boys.

Mohamed is the outgoing inaugural president of the African Students' Association which he established at Macquarie University.

Mustapha Bangura (his twin brother) is studying Arts/Law at Wollongong University. He started off in Health Science there and transferred to Arts/Law. He is now in his second year of Law.

Mustapha also established the African Students' Association at Wollongong. He has won a scholarship (after writing a 6,000 word thesis) to go to Sierra Leone at the end of this year to work in the area of Human Rights Law (for three months). Mustapha does voluntary work at the Campbelltown Legal Centre and also works voluntarily with Sydney Community College to assist students studying for their HSC.

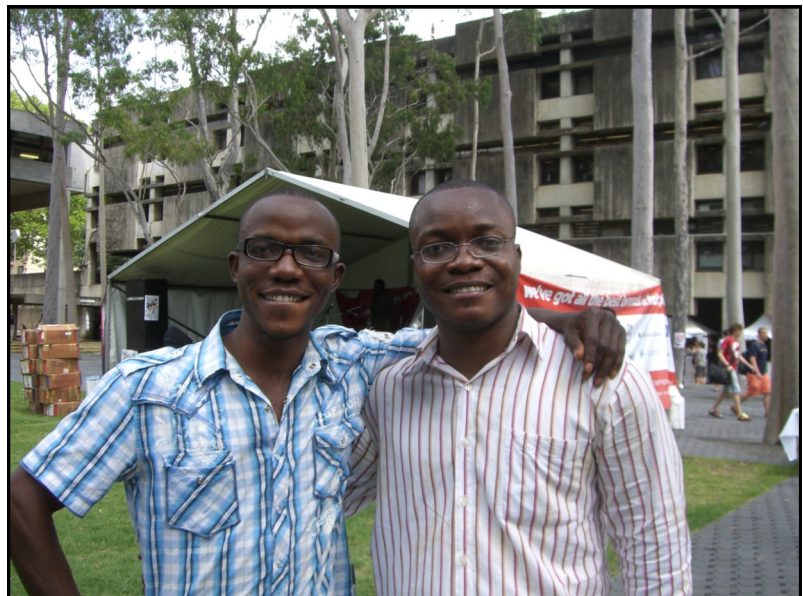
Both of the brothers have been round to local schools trying to get donations of old computers to send to schools in Sierra Leone.

I am so proud to have been part of the education of these two wonderful boys. I have attached photos that I took of them today.

Judy Gerber



The sounds and rhythms of Africa come to Macquarie University thanks to former ABHS students, the Brothers Bangura.



Mohamed and Mustapha Bangura, brothers in arms, striving to make an impact here and in Sierra Leone.

Celebrating excellence in boys' education



The school and official guests gather for the Assembly



Welcome to Country was accompanied by didgeridoo



The School Concert Band performed for the Assembly



The Islander dance group entertained the guests



Guests were treated to some culinary delights



Dr. Lambert and Mr. Fletcher congratulated the "chefs"

SCHOOL RESUMES IN TERM 2 2010

FOR STAFF - Monday 19 April 2010

ALL STUDENTS - Tuesday 20 April 2010

International student successes recognized

by Ms Couani

On 24th February, four students from Ashfield Boys High received awards at the International Students Centre Awards Ceremony at Parliament House in Sydney. Three of last year's year 12 students received academic achievement awards from Trevor Fletcher, the Deputy Director-General, Schools, NSW DET. Mike Lin gained all Band 6 results and came 8th in the state in Chinese. Yu Meng gained four Band 6 results and came 5th in the state in Chinese. Trevis Lim gained four Band 6 results. As well, year 11 student, Ting Yang received a School Service award for his work on the SRC at Ashfield Boys. Ms Kokkalis and Ms Couani accompanied the boys to the ceremony. We noticed that our school had the highest number of awards and two more than last year when Long Nguyen blitzed the field and gained the overall academic award. Long was unable to attend the ceremony but we saw a recent video of him talking about his school and university experience. Congratulations to our four award winners!



At the Awards ceremony were Yr 12 2009 students Yu Meng, Mike Lin, and Trevis Lim as well as Yr 11 student Ting Yang.

Captain's log

This year has had a totally different feel, and it is great to see highly motivated students not only in the leadership body but in classrooms. Although my final year, I along with the rest of the senior leaders are looking forward to excelling in our endeavors and holding up a standard for the rest to follow.



Personally, I have been involved in social networking events, such as a recent one held at Trinity Grammar School and have volunteered to help with the Breakfast Club along with William Vo, a fellow senior leader.

In terms of the Year 12 senior leaders and I, we have been working on the Year 12 Formal and have come up with a few ideas for the School gift. In light of this, we are preparing to host a Junior school social to be held at our school later this year. This will be a great chance for the junior students to meet and socialise with other female students from our surrounding schools like Burwood Girls' High and Canterbury Girls' High schools.

We are currently organising some fundraising ideas like a Krispy Kremes Drive for Easter and raffles for Gift Hampers for events like Mothers' and Fathers'

days.

The SRC have been working collectively in order to come up with new ideas that will either promote our school in the community or better the learning for students here. The attendance this term has been promising and hopefully will continue. The Year 11 students have been working on a major project for Harmony Day at Ashfield Boys' and they experienced success in their recent mufti day fundraiser which has been donated to the Haiti effort.

To the SRC, the international students have been a great addition as they have provided great assistance in such activities and even organised their own Chinese New Year Celebrations led by Mrs. Couani.

More recently the SRC were primarily concerned with helping Mr. Chatwin and Miss Hobeck with the organisation of the Director General's assembly held on 12th March. This event required SRC leaders to guide past students, parents and members of the community around the school in to the new additions to the school like the recently renovated science labs.

It has been a great start to the year in terms of student leadership for the school, and hopefully these high levels of confidence and motivation will continue to prosper in the coming year of 2010.

Ravi Sharma

EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILIES



*Expand your knowledge of other countries, cultures, languages and cuisines
Consider opening your door to an international exchange student.*

Simon from Belgium will be 17 years old when he arrives. He enjoys listening to music, camping and biking. At home he contributes to the general cleaning of the family home & mows the lawn. He considers himself a good cook of BBQ's.

Sandra from France will be 17 years old on arrival. She enjoys cooking & taking care of her three horses. She is happy to be placed anywhere and is hoping to make life long friends.

Matteo from Italy will be 16 years old on arrival. He wants to be a chef when he leaves school and is looking forward to introducing his host family to some home cooked Italian cuisine.

World Education Program is looking for Volunteer Host Families for International Students arriving in July 2010.

Are you interested to learn more about these students or others?

Then please contact us for a free information pack.

This will include a photo, a letter from the student and a letter from their parents.

It's easier than you think & a fantastic experience for all!

For further information please contact :

Nikki Medwell
Inbound Exchange Administrator
World Education Program

Ph: (03) 9598 4733
Fax: (03) 9598 4233
Toll Free: 1300 884 733
Email: nikkimedwell@wep.org.au

Full support is offered to all host families by National Office staff and a local WEP representative from your community.

An emergency phone number is provided that is answered by the CEO around the clock!

Traffic and Parking Infringements around school

It is essential for the safety and well-being of our boys that parents/guardians take extra care in school zones and comply with the road rules. A number of parents use the turning space between the school and the Wests Ashfield Club to drop off and pick up students. While there is no problem with the parking laws, please remember to watch for other traffic and students on bicycles exiting the school undercover parking area. It is also important to watch for pedestrians at the Liverpool Road traffic lights.

**Pedestrians, especially smaller children,
do not always look for traffic.**

The message should be clear, school zones and offences exist to protect our kids and by disobeying these rules parents are putting their own kids at risk.

For further information or to report offenders, please contact :

Constable Winn
Youth Liaison Officer
Ashfield Police Station
14 Victoria Street, Ashfield NSW 2131
ph (02) 9797 4099
fax (02) 9797 4011
email winn1jan@police.nsw.gov.au



ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

BANNED ITEMS

The following items are NOT to be brought to school:

- Large textas
- Spray cans, particularly spray deodorants (allergy risk)
- Mobile phones
- CD players, Discmans, Electronic games, MP3 players, iPods or any other personal sound systems
- Large sums of money

If any Mobile phones, CD players, Discmans, electronic games are brought to school and used inappropriately and disrupt learning they will be confiscated and returned at a later date.

DANGEROUS ITEMS

- Fireworks
- Knives, including craft knives and toys as well as actual knives
- Weapons of any kind, including toy guns, pellets, replica weapons
- Drugs – legal and illegal; substances passed off as drugs
- Sharp objects; laser pointers
- Inappropriate readings, writings or drawings, downloading of inappropriate or censored material from the internet

Students found in possession of dangerous items may be suspended.

The items will be confiscated and will be referred to the police.

The Department of School Education expects schools to take very seriously any situation where students or staff feel they are unsafe or where the learning of other students is disrupted. Schools must involve the Police if a student brings a knife or other weapon to school (including toys and replicas) or an illegal substance (this includes passing a substance off as an illegal substance).

Voicemail/Extension Number 2010

If you wish to discuss a matter or make a comment in regard to your son/ward's learning please contact the school and ask to speak to the relevant subject head teacher or his Year Adviser.

Or, if you wish to leave a **message** for the relevant *subject* head teacher or his Year Adviser, you can do so by phoning the school number and selecting the teacher's voicemail extension.

Subject	Head Teacher	Voicemail Extension Number only for the purposes of leaving a message
English /ESL	Louise Finigan	400
History / Teaching & Learning	Marcel Radojevic	307
Welfare	Margot Fitzgibbon	132
Mathematics/Computing	Maria Thomas	321
Science	Rod Conder	323
Human Society and Its Environment	Chris Zaczek	330
Creative Arts	Margot Fitzgibbon	132
Technical Applied Science	Bruce Johnston	109
Sport / PD/H/PE	Andrew Collins (Relieving HT)	335
Administration/Languages	Diana Gershwin	120
Careers Adviser	Les Carrington	108
Counsellor	David Payne	107
Absences (eg: sick, late)	School Assistant	106

Year Advisers

Year	Teacher	Voicemail Extension Number – only for the purposes of leaving a message
7	Roland Tenefrancia	372
8	Terry McCusker	305
9	Shirley Prescott	367
10	Andrew Collins	335
11	John Longhurst	366
12	Mitza Zimaras	338

Instructions for leaving a message on voicemail:

Dial the whole school number either 9798 6620 or 9798 5520.

Wait until you hear the message "You have reached ..." then dial the relevant voicemail extension number.

Leave your message after the tone.

Hang up when finished.



English news

Congratulations to Year 12 and their teachers on their outstanding English results at the 2009 HSC.

The results demonstrate their consistent hard work and thorough approach to their studies. A special mention to Karl dela Torre first in English Advanced, Yusuf Getlic first in Standard English and Han Lin first in English as a Second Language. We look forward to their success in their future tertiary studies.

This year there are some new events in English. Year 7 will register for the **Premier's Reading Challenge**. This activity will be the focus of our wide reading program with purpose of encouraging the boys to read more fiction.

Debating will be under the supervision of Mr Chatwin and Ms O'Donnell. Both staff members will be focusing on Years 7 and 8 and have entered

teams in the Premier's Debating Challenge this year. We are always on the look out for enthusiastic public speakers. In addition to this, we are planning a public speaking program accessible to all boys Years 7 to 10 to encourage public speaking skills across these years.

The year has begun and is very busy with HSC courses underway. We are piloting the new English Studies course for **Year 11** students undertaking a vocational education pattern of study. We were selected by the Board of Studies and the Department of Education and Training as a result of our application to the region. This has provided more options for our Year 11 students.

It is also a busy year with the consultation of the National curriculum released this week. Our faculty will be preparing a response to this.

We hope your son has settled in well to the new year.

Louise Finigan

Head Teacher English

Languages Other Than English

Welcome to 2010 and Happy Year of the Tiger to our Chinese, Korean, Thai and Vietnamese Students.

The classes have all settled in to their language learning. This year, 8 Lorca will be learning Chinese with Mrs Wang while 8 Guevara, Neruda, Bolivar and Marquez will be learning Spanish with Mr McCusker. 8 Lorca please remember to pay for your Ni Hao workbooks as soon as possible. We also have 2 classes in both Year 11 and Year 12 Chinese Background Speakers.

Stage 6 Chinese have a hard act to follow as the HSC results from last year were outstanding. Out of 24 students, 3 gained marks in Band 6 and 14 in Band 5. Our statistics are well above state averages and Mrs Wang and the boys are to be congratulated on their hard work. As the icing on the cake, Yu Meng and Han (Mike) Lin were also placed in the top 10 in the State. Both are International Students. Mike is also receiving a Premier's Award for the 2009 HSC.

Ms D. Gershwin

Head Teacher Administration/LOTE

Legal Studies students gain access to the legal archives

By Xavier Ho, George Economidis and Albert Funganitao.

On the 8th March 2010, Mrs Hart's Yr 11 Legal Studies class visited the Mitchell State Library's Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC) located on Macquarie St. St James.

The centre, which is in the library, is specially catering for and designed for Commerce, Legal Studies and Law students providing legal resources for their studies.

Whilst there, we learnt how to access data from the library via www.sl.nsw.gov.au and www.legalanswers.sl.nsw.gov.au with our State Library cards we had applied for earlier.

By having our cards we learnt that we are able to access the library's database from home which is great when we are unable go to the library. The LIAC website is useful for law, commerce and legal students to access case law (case studies involving law). This is essential for our research tasks.

In conclusion, the visit to Mitchell State Library was an invaluable experience opening our minds up to legal world with thanks to Mrs Condie who assisted us by guiding our class through the library and to Mrs Hart for organising the excursion.



STATE LIBRARY™
NEW SOUTH WALES

History 2010

moving forward by looking back



We have another exciting year planned for all History classes. The success of History Day, both at a school level and winning the Minister's Award for History will continue in 2010. This year Ashfield Boys' High will go 80's. This happens to coincide with the Powerhouse Museums

new presentation of The 80's. Esteemed Junior and Senior History teacher, Mr John Longhurst, went to a special presentation and opening of the 80's exhibit. He was very impressed and we are planning to take Year 10 to the exhibit as it forms part of our decade study for the School Certificate course. The exhibit will also provide a great lead up to our History Day which will be held in September.

Stage 4 History has started well and is exploring 'What is History' and how it is studied. They are currently researching an internet site as part of their site study on the Great Pyramid of Giza and exploring its wonders and complexities. The boys will then move into looking at Ancient China and the many extraordinary inventions and innovations that were developed.

Year 9 History has started their study of Australian History 1901 to the end of World War 2. This is a two year mandatory course and during this period they will complete an internet site study on Gallipoli. Last year Year 9 went on a historical harbour cruise to complement the site study. It is hoped that we will be able to go again this year. We will be treating the boys to a medieval show in Term 2.

Year 10 have begun their second year of the mandatory course which is examinable in the School Certificate. Along with their laptops and use of text books, the boys have been issued with a 'History Workbook'. They will get a new work book for each new topic. The boys will work from these

workbooks and use their laptops for research, graphs, tables and draft work. It is important that the boys practise their writing skills for source questions and extended responses. These workbooks are designed to prepare them for content and writing expectations of the School Certificate. It is imperative that students complete all set tasks, catch up on missed work and preserve all work books for revision purposes. All the boys are working well at this stage and we need to continue this trend leading to the School Certificate.

Year 11 Modern History, Ancient History and Studies of Religion courses are up and running. There is a big step from Year 10 to 11 and the expectation of a senior approach to their learning. The preliminary course serves as a preparation for the HSC and it is imperative that all students adopt a senior approach and make full use of their flexible time table. The History faculty have a saying, 'If you fail to plan, you plan to fail'. We urge all students to plan for success by being well organised, have a study and assessment timetable drawn up and ensure all work is completed in full to their best standard. This is the first step to success and being a lifelong learner. Year 11 Ancient History will go to the Rocks area of Sydney on the 16th of March to undertake a site study. This is a great opportunity to apply knowledge, skills and techniques of archaeology.

Year 12 Modern History, Ancient History and Studies of Religion have maintained their study program throughout the holidays into Term 1 2010 (we like to call holidays, senior study period). All students need to ensure they are well prepared for all lessons and assessments leading to the HSC. On March the 5th Year 12 Modern History attended an all day seminar on World War One – the Homefront.

The History staff wishes all students the best in their studies and in all students' pursuit of excellence.

Mr Radojevic

Head Teacher—History

Learner Driver Parents in the Ashfield area

Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops

Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in casualty crashes. That's why the RTA has introduced a new licensing scheme, with more supervised driving practice for learner drivers.

To help parents in supervising learner drivers, the RTA has set up a FREE 2 hour workshop for parents that offers practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

A FREE RTA parents' workshop will be conducted by David Riches and hosted by Ashfield Council on Wednesday May 5th at the Cadigal Room (next door to the Ashfield Aquatic Centre in Elizabeth Street) from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm.

Early bookings are essential, by phoning Ashfield Council on 9716 1843 now to reserve your place, or email camillec@ashfield.nsw.gov.au

A Stellar Year in the Science Faculty.

2010 is promising to be an exciting year in the Science faculty with 4 of the old laboratories and preparation room completely rebuilt. They certainly at least look bright and are an excellent learning space for the 21st Century (away with the fixed old benches and cupboards). The classes have all settled in and a number of new projects will be ready to commence soon.

Year 7 Stage 4 Science classes have started their journey in science developing new skills to allow them to take on the challenges of Science. They are working on modules focused around Water which is quite relevant to the challenges society is facing about water and its usage.

Year 8 Stage 4 Science have started the year with a focus on the Human Body. During term 2 the boys will be working on energy usage and this will be an across faculty project involving the Maths Faculty. The students are currently working on an assessment task involving a narrative or short story about the human digestive system

Year 9 stage 5 have begun the year looking at light and sound but the really exciting part will be term 2 where the students will be involved in a Renewable Energy Project called Stellar which is being trialled by 150 schools across Australia. This project will be led by MS. Osborn and Mr. Lam and involves the faculty being provided with solar cells and wind turbines for the students to use in their investigations. I am sure this project will grab the interest of year 9. Year 9 will also be going on an excursion early term 2 involving the Power House museum and Imax.

Year 10 have started the year with a unit of work called "Genetics with Ethics" which is centred around the boys considering the major issues involving current research in genetics and genetic engineering. A disappointing aspect for year 10 was the need to cancel an activity on Forensics due to the poor response of the students in paying for this activity. Hopefully a better response will occur for another activity planned for term 3. The students will soon be having their first assessment task for the school certificate and need to note the half yearly examination are early term 2 and this will include work from year 9 as the school certificate examination covers both year 9 and year 10 work.

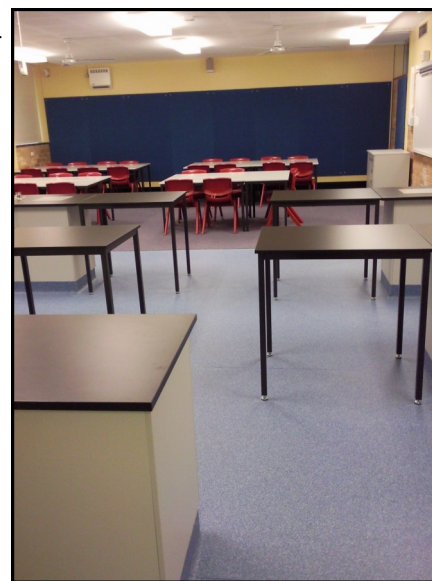
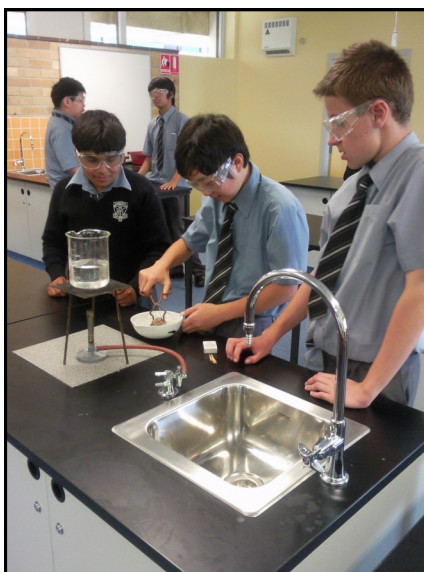
An important aspect here is for the students to remember that they need to come to class properly prepared including a ruler, pen(s), pencil and workbook. This helps demonstrate one of the key learning habits on the student reports about "being well prepared and organised".

Stage 6 Science courses have started 2010 with a large number of students in year 11(2 Chemistry classes, 2 Physics classes, 2 Biology classes and one Senior Science class-huge!).

A reminder to year 11 Biology and Senior Science about the upcoming field study at Homebush Bicentennial Park in week 9 of this term- this is a mandatory part of your course!!!!

Year 12, well, holidays are now past and the HSC is only 3 terms away.

Rod Conder
Head teacher



Photos courtesy of Ms. Meers,
Science Assistant

SUCCESS in Mathematics

Ashfield Boys High School Mathematics students achieved outstanding results in the 2009 mathematics examinations. 20% of the students in General Mathematics scored Bands 5 and 6; in Mathematics 48% of students scored Bands 5 and 6; 100% of students in Extension 1 Mathematics scored E3 and E4; and in Mathematics Extension II all students scored a Band 6.

Student engagement leads to success and so the mathematics staff look forward to another year of success.

Graphics Calculators for the General Course

We have a number of Casio Graphics Calculators that students in General Mathematics can purchase for \$100. (usual cost is \$150). Students who study general mathematics will find the use of a graphics calculator useful - its use is applicable to 30% of the course.

It is also important to mention that students are not at all disadvantaged if they use their current scientific calculator.



MATHS HELP

The Mathematics Department of ABHS has continued to subscribe to the online maths learning facility sponsored by McDonalds (you may have seen it advertised on TV). This program allows students to review concepts and consolidate their skills. We have registered our students from Years 8 to 12 to use this learning/teaching resource at www.mathsonline.com.au. Each student will have their unique login ID and password and they will be able to access the online learning facility in school as directed by the teacher as well as at home. As soon as the current year 7's are registered we will inform the students of their login ID and password. Some of the features that this program offers are: full lessons for each concept with a voice over, and examples of varying difficulty. Every lesson has a pause and rewind facility to help students grasp concepts at their own pace. It also has an accompanying printable summary and worksheet to consolidate the concept.

It is suggested that parents have a look at the website and 'try it'. While parents can register their children themselves, we would prefer to do it through the school as it allows us to monitor your child's progress and set whole class / individual tasks accordingly. Please note the program is best

used as a support supplement to the classroom teaching/learning experience.

Ms. Thomas

Head Teacher - Mathematics and Computing

UP FOR A CHALLENGE

then read on

The **Australian Mathematics Competition**

(AMC) is suitable for students in Years 7 to 12, students will be asked basic skills questions involving arithmetic, algebra and geometry, but also challenged with problem solving skills.

Students are given the opportunity to solve many problems which indicate the relevance of mathematics in everyday life. In addition the problems may inspire an interest and a love of learning in mathematics.

All students receive a report showing how they went in each question, and receive a certificate commensurate with their performance.

The cost of the AMC competition is **\$5 payable to the office by Thursday April 1st 2010.**

The actual test date is Thursday 5th August 2010.

Computer skills Competition

This competition is offered to students in Years 7 - 10 only. The paper assesses the students' knowledge and skills which include: common operating systems and hardware, word processing, graphics and multimedia, spreadsheets and databases, Internet and email, with programming and scripting for year 10 students. Year 7 and 8 students complete 40 multiple choice questions in 40 minutes. The year 9 and 10 students complete 45 multiple choice questions in 45 minutes.

Students receive a detailed diagnostic report and a UNSW Certificate acknowledging their level of achievement.

The cost of the competition is **\$6.60 which is payable to the office by Thursday 1st April 2010.** The test date is Tuesday 25th May 2010.

Masterchef - Ashfield style

Term four, of last year, saw Masterchef arrive at Ashfield Boys' High School. The competition was open to all students in grades 7-9 and ran for nine weeks, with five gruelling elimination rounds in which sixteen competitors worked with their nominated sous chefs to create interesting and innovative approaches to the set food challenges. Round one, three and four were 'Menu Item Challenges'- Scones, Burgers and Cupcakes- and round two and five were 'Invention tests'- Beetroot and Zucchini. Some of the more memorable responses were:

- ☺ Richard Scuderi's beautiful Lemon and Blueberry Scones with a sweetened marscapone and candied lemon zest;
- ☺ Jack Hamilton's fresh and delightfully zingy Zucchini Carpaccio with a Red Capsicum Tortilla;
- ☺ Ben McKeever-Ford's scrumptious Beef, Ginger and Lemongrass Burger with Fresh Beetroot marinated in balsamic vinegar, chilli and mint;
- ☺ Abe Kairouz and Joseph Ilaqua's inventive twists on a classic recipes with 'Lemon Meringue Baby-cakes' and 'Black Forest Cupcakes'; and
- ☺ Ben McKeever-Ford's delicious 'Beetroot Ravioli with cream sauce and Pear and Roquette salad'.

After this fantastic experience, competitors, along with Yr 9 Food Technology and Yr 11 Hospitality students, were invited to participate in an amazing two part excursion with the amazing King-of-Sweets Mr Adriano Zumbo

www.adrianozumbo.com.

The first part was a trip to his wonderful Balmain bakery and cafe, where students were given a tour of the two premises, a chance to investigate his original and delectable pastry inventions and a mouth-wateringly delicious lunch, before heading off to inspect his kitchen and meet his magnificentourage of staff.

The second part was the incredible opportunity to participate in an all-day Masterclass where students learned to make the very same 'Croquembouche' that challenged Channel 10's Masterchef contestants earlier in the year.

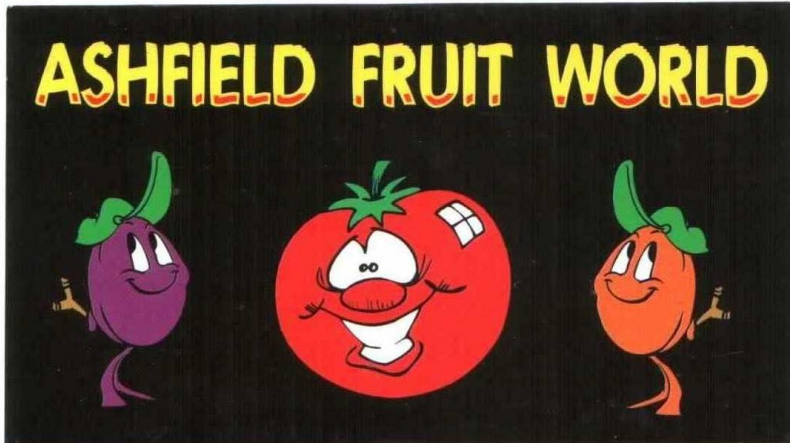
A big thank you goes to Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Osborn, Ms. Hobeck, Ms. Fitzgibbon and Mr. Dixon who supported this program by sitting on the judging panel and to the amazing 'Second-in-command Grand Masterchef' Mr. Ovenden who generously gave his time to co-write and help coordinate this fantastic program. A big congratulations goes to all competitors (including sous chefs) for their energy and commitment to making this program an amazing success.



(Continued from page 16)

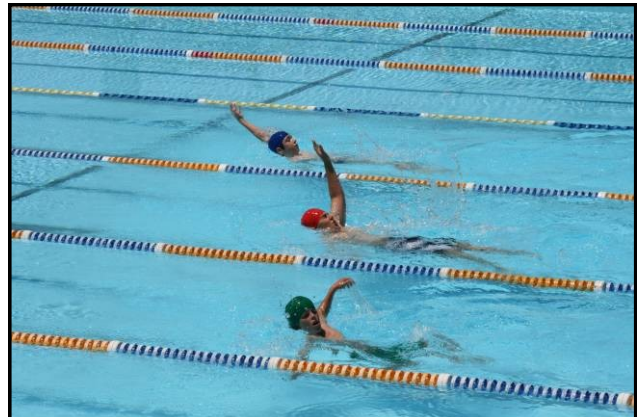
An enormous thank you to Bill Panas and his family for helping to organise the excursion with Adriano and last, but in no way least, heartfelt thanks go to the King himself for his overwhelmingly generous donation of both time and resources.

Mrs. SaraMae Belle Page



Long time suppliers to Ashfield Boys High School Food Technology Department with fresh produce weekly. Support your local retailers, we are!

2010 Swimming Carnival snapshot





AGE CHAMPIONS

Age	Champion	Runner-up
12	Oliver YOUNIS (W)	Emmitt JARJOURA (K)
13	Dylan KURONUMA (K)	Lochlann OAG (K)
14	Andy LEE (W)	Vincent OEI (W)
15	Jack PYE (A)	Nicholas CHARALAMBOUS (K)
16	Adam GEORGIU (D)	Jun Ho HWANG (D)
17	Tommy LEE (K)	Phillip SZILAGYI (W)
18	Peter DRAKE (W)	Gazi NIKOLICH (A)

Carnival Championship

328	Koorawatha
251	Warramunga
178	Darawal
89	Arabana

Abbie's babble

Welcome back to another year at ABHS. There have been quite a few new things happening around the school.

- ☺ First of all **Xing Nian Kuai Le** as we move into the Year of the Tiger.
- ☺ The International students welcomed in the **Chinese New Year** with a good old Aussie Sausage Sizzle. Red Lanterns hanging in the trees and Chinese Karaoke playing in the background.



- ☺ We **welcome back** to the teaching ranks, Ms. Lane and Mrs. Osborn, whose baby boys are thriving.
- ☺ **New Staff** have joined the school - Ms. Museth in Drama, Ms. Tzodouris in Music, Ms. Doganci in Technics, and Ms. Brown in the Support area.
- ☺ **Year 7** have started their secondary education years in fine form. Most have taken to High School with relish, as they make new friends and enjoy new experiences. One of those was an opportunity to learn some Rugby League skills from coaches and players from **West's Tigers**. From all accounts the sessions went well.
- ☺ While they may have kicked or passed a football before, for most, the chance to roll a few bowls at Pratten Park and charge around at Ultimate Frisbee, provided some new experiences.
- ☺ **Year 7** are also the first group to enjoy a covered play area at recess and lunch with the erection of a shade sail over the Year 7 courtyard. **See photo p.3**
- ☺ Soon we will be saying farewell to Ms. Regan, but only for a short time as she takes Maternity Leave. We wish her well and a safe delivery.
- ☺ Speaking of deliveries, next time you are at the front desk, ask "Granny" Penninton to show you the photos of her new addition to the family.
- ☺ Three of the SRC have just returned from a day at Sydney University where they participated in workshops looking at options or the future. A fuller report will appear in the next newsletter.
- ☺ **Summer Sport** season has now closed. A number of teams from ABHS contested semi-finals, but only three made it through to the Finals. **14's Cricket**, coached by Mr. Hathi, took on Homebush, but were defeated. The **Junior Futsal** (Indoor Soccer) team, coached by Ms. Hobeck were also defeated by Homebush. However, the **under 15's Basketballers**, coached by Mr. Tenefrancia, defeated North Sydney Boys HS to bring home the trophy. Well Done!
- ☺ The annual **Swimming Carnival** saw an increase in the number of students participating in the events. This was pleasing because not only did it make for a more enjoyable day, but there were many instances of boys "having a go" and getting active. Representatives from ABHS then went to the Zone swimming carnival at the Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. While we didn't win any of the races, most swam better times than they had done at the school carnival. Always improving!
- ☺ **Winter Sports** have now commenced. Trials for the Grade teams are in full swing with Badminton introduced this year for the first time. ABHS will be fielding Grade teams in Rugby Union, Soccer, Table Tennis, Tennis and Badminton. Unfortunately without the services of a qualified coach, we have had to forego Hockey this season.
- ☺ With Non-Grade sport we are trying a few new things, as well as continuing with some of the traditional sports. Newbies include **Ice Skating** at Canterbury, and **Ten Pin** for all years at Strathfield, and **Softball** on the school Oval. There is a cost for most sports, so if you have some difficulty with this please contact the new Sports Coordinator, Mr. Carrington.
- ☺ The **Director General's Award for Excellence** Assembly was a chance to showcase the cultural and academic diversity of Ashfield Boys' and a tangible reminder of why it is we love being here.

Always on the lookout for a good story!

Bye for now,

Abbie

